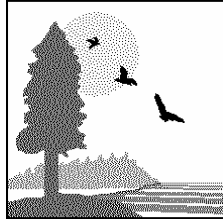


CALIFORNIA STATE LANDS COMMISSION

100 Howe Avenue, Suite 100-South
Sacramento, CA 95825-8202



PAUL D. THAYER, *Executive Officer*
(916) 574-1800 FAX (916) 574-1810
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Contact FAX: (916) 574-1950

January 28, 2008

File Ref: W 9777.234

Dear Shipping Agent/Interested Party:

On October 10, 2007, the Governor signed into law AB 740 (amending Public Resources Code (PRC) § 71200, 71201, 71204, and 71205 and adding § 71204.6). The law directs the California State Lands Commission (Commission) to develop a reporting form to be used to collect information regarding hull husbandry practices and vessel behavior patterns related to hull fouling by aquatic organisms. This form has been developed in consultation with a Technical Advisory Group made up of representatives from the shipping industry, scientists, consultants, and government agencies.

The law requires all vessels carrying, or capable of carrying, ballast water, that visit a California port or place to submit information, via the Hull Husbandry Reporting Form, to the Commission annually upon request beginning January 1, 2008. The master, owner, operator, agent, or person in charge of the vessel shall submit this form within 60 days of receiving a written or electronic request from the Commission. Please see Attachment B for a copy of the draft reporting form. The official form may be different from the draft and will be distributed once the regulatory process is complete. Forward forms to:

California State Lands Commission
Marine Facilities Division
200 Oceangate, Suite 900
Long Beach, CA 90802
FAX: 562-499-6444
Email: bwform@slc.ca.gov

The law also directs the Commission, in consultation with the State Water Resources Control Board, the United States Coast Guard, and a Technical Advisory Group, to develop and adopt regulations, on or before January 1, 2012, governing the management of hull fouling on vessels arriving at a California port or place. The information collected from the Hull Husbandry Reporting Forms will help guide the development of these regulations.

Because agents are one of the primary conduits of information for vessel owners and operators entering California ports or places, your assistance in providing notice to them about the new reporting requirements is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Shipping Agents
January 28, 2008
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If you have any questions, please contact me at the number listed above. Otherwise, refer to the Commission's web page at:
http://www.slc.ca.gov/Spec_Pub/MFD/Ballast_Water/Ballast_Water_Default.html

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Maurya B. Falkner', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Maurya B. Falkner
Marine Invasive Species Program Manager
Marine Facilities Division

Encl: Attachment A – AB 740
Attachment B – Hull Husbandry Reporting Form